



State Capitol | Lansing, Michigan 48913

PH (517) 373.3760 | FAX (517) 373.8661

www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/cropsey/

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Contact: John Lazet
517-373-3760

****PHOTO ADVISORY****

Sen. Cropsey presents tribute to Professor of the Year Gary Gagnon

LANSING—State Sen. Alan Cropsey, R-DeWitt, today presented a Senate tribute to Central Michigan University Professor Gary Gagnon, who was named 2005 Michigan Professor of the Year for his leadership ability, commitment to education, genuine concern for young people and helping students reach their potential.

“A professor has an impact on his generation and generations to come,” said Cropsey. “Professor Gagnon has made his students better and has made the future a better place for all of us through his caring involvement in the classroom.”

Gagnon, who teaches marketing & hospitality services, was named Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education. The Senate tribute recognized Gagnon as “an enthusiastic and caring educator who has made a difference in countless lives,” and it said he “understands the importance of education and has created a culture within the classroom that rewards creativity.”

Gagnon earned his bachelor’s degree in hospitality from Michigan State University and his master of business administration degree from Central Michigan University. He brings a wide range of international management experience, hospitality and business teaching experience into the classroom.

Gagnon once was the director of sales and marketing for a hotel owned by the Saudi royal family. During a seven-year period he served as resident manager, general manager and regional executive for six hotels in the Middle East.

A photo of Sen. Cropsey and Professor Gary Gagnon standing with the Senate tribute is available at:

<http://www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/photowire/Cropsey/Cropsey.htm>

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